

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DBA 48275



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Francisco, California

August 2, 1963

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2008

(1) (0) ERIK HEINE

SF T-1, who is active in the affairs of the Estonian community in the San Francisco Bay Area, on July 19, 1963, advised he attended a film showing by ERIK HEINE, on July 13, 1963, at Potrero Hill neighborhood house, 953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California.

SF T-1 furnished a throwaway entitled, "Creators of Legend," which served as a program for the movie and is set forth as follows:

Heroic deeds will never die, but are transformed into a spiritual treasure, that lives forever in the memory of the people. Such achievements of courage and self-sacrifice will thus become a heritage which provides the nation with an everlasting inner strength, the strength that makes it possible for a nation to maintain its spirit of freedom and independence even in the darkest of times when the country is overrun by a foreign tyranny. This treasure is also a monument for the future generations to look up to and gain inspiration from the heroism of their ancestors.

It was mainly due to such heritage that the Estonians did not lose their hope for freedom when their small country was again occupied by the Red Army in 1944. Estonian menfolk refused to surrender when the regular front collapsed under the impact of overpowering enemy masses and continued to harass the invader from Estonian forests. South guerilla

ed
COORDINATION WITH FBI

CS COPY

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

EERIK HEINE

activities ranged all over the country and there were three main factors that gave impetus to the men's determination to resist the enemy at all costs. First of all, it was their inherited obligation to defend their country to the last man, secondly they were well aware that surrender would mean their death or deportation to Siberian labor-camps, and thirdly, it was taken for granted by the freedomfighters that the Democratic Powers in the Free World will never tolerate the annihilation of the independent Estonia by Soviet Union.

This motion picture you are about to see concerns the life and struggle of one of the numerous guerilla units which were operating in Estonian forests at that time, and the story is based on actual facts. Being continuously hunted by the communists and suffering from all kinds of hardships, it is hardly any wonder that the men and women who are living under such stress and circumstances become hard-faced creatures who sometimes get disillusioned and even begin to waver a little in their beliefs. We can see glimpses of the rugged life in a bunker, the constant dangers encountered by the partisans and among others a dramatic scene where a partisan captured by the communists is forced to lead the enemy to the positions of his comrades.

We can also view the skirmishes between the partisans and Red Army units, the hazardous lives of the people keeping contact between the partisans and villagers and a spectacular, daring train robbery, the proceeds of which -- one million rubles--are divided between the local farmers so that they could pay their exorbitant land taxes and thus save their individual farms from being corporated into kolkhozes--at least as long as possible. Their ears constantly glued to the radio, the partisans are eagerly awaiting for some encouraging news from the

REPRODUCED BY
BEST AVAILABLE COPY

EERIK HEINE

Western World, but it is all in vain. There is no help in sight. The action in the film reaches its culmination with a battle between the partisans and a Red Army ski-patrol in the snow-covered forest. The partisans are forced to withdraw before the strength of overwhelming enemy and in order to save the rest of the unit from certain death, a farmer and his wife are willingly sacrificing their lives.

The script of this motion picture is by Eerik Heine who has based a great deal of the story on his personal experiences. It is dedicated to the memory of those who fought in Estonian forests--to the men and women of whom some are still living, their eyes directed toward the Free World in rightful expectation that this here is now the battleground where the struggle for Estonian freedom is being continued. Those people who once fought and bled and hoped in the forests of their homeland, braving all hardships, have thus created a legend that will live forever in the hearts of Estonian people.

SF T-1 advised that he had learned that HEINE was born in Tartu, Estonia, of very wealthy parents, and he attended school there. His parents live in Canada, and he is married. The impression among local Estonians is that he seems to be a great patriot. He stayed to fight for Estonia and never really thought of leaving there until he found he had no other alternative.

In 1956, his identity had become known to the authorities, and he was fearful of being executed. HEINE managed somehow to pass as a German; and, on November 23, 1956, ~~he entered the~~ Free World. This was the year that German Chancellor ADENAUER went to Russia to demand the return of German war prisoners. A few months later he was in Canada.

HEINE grew up and went to school with a friend now living in Berkeley, California, by the name of SIBUL.

DO NOT COPY
BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DBA 4/8/75

EERIK HEINE

It is possible that HEINE may have stayed with SIBUL during his stay in San Francisco, California.

The movie HEINE showed represented a dramatic and accurate picture of life behind the Iron Curtain. It was, to some extent, based on HEINE's own experiences. The audience was deeply moved and patriotic feelings possessed everyone's heart.

After the movie, which lasted two and one half hours, HEINE talked about an hour concerning life in Estonia and behind the Iron Curtain and discussed his life as a prisoner in various labor camps.

On July 14 1963, after church services, HEINE talked for two and one half hours and answered various questions put to him.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY